



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATION (CERHI)



JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Advancing Research. Inspiring Innovation. Building Global Partnerships.



July At A Glance

This edition of the CERHI Newsletter highlights a landmark month of progress and partnership. Key highlights include:

- Director's Message: Reflections on CERHI's growing global footprint and research mission.
- Feature Story: CERHI formalises a strategic international partnership with the University of Bolton, UK, opening new frontiers in collaborative research and academic exchange.
- Learning Beyond the Classroom: 500-Level Medical Students engage in an immersive visit to CERHI, bridging academic theory with real-world reproductive health research.
- Building Research Capacity: Conclusion of CERHI's internship and industrial training programme, equipping the next generation of researchers.
- By the Numbers | Strategic Impact | Looking Ahead | July's Key Takeaway | Looking Back. Moving Forward.



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Center Leader's Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we reflect on the month of July, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable strides our Centre has made in advancing reproductive health research, fostering international collaborations, and nurturing the next generation of health innovators.

This month has been a testament to CERHI's unwavering commitment to excellence. From the landmark strategic partnership we formalised with the University of Bolton, UK, to the inspiring engagement of our 500-Level Medical Students who experienced learning beyond the classroom, July has reinforced our position as a leading institution in reproductive health innovation.

Our internship and industrial training programme drew to a successful close, and the calibre of work produced by our trainees continues to affirm the strength of our capacity-building initiatives. These young professionals are the future of reproductive health research, and we are honoured to have played a role in shaping their journey.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to build global partnerships, generate evidence-based solutions, and inspire innovation that transforms lives. I invite you to explore this edition and join us in celebrating the achievements that define CERHI's enduring impact.

Warm regards,

Prof. (Mrs) O.E. Obarisiagbon
Centre Leader, CERHI



CERHI FEATURE STORY

Strategic International Partnership | Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation



CERHI & University of Bolton, UK: A New Chapter in Global Research

In a significant milestone for the Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI), July 2026 marked the formalisation of a strategic international partnership with the University of Bolton, United Kingdom. This collaboration represents a pivotal step in CERHI's mission to advance reproductive health research and innovation on a global scale.

The partnership was established following months of dialogue between senior leadership at both institutions, culminating in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that outlines a framework for joint research, faculty exchange, and collaborative postgraduate training programmes. The University of Bolton, renowned for its applied research excellence and commitment to health sciences, brings a wealth of expertise that complements CERHI's established strengths in reproductive and maternal health.

Key areas of collaboration include joint research initiatives in reproductive health technologies, co-supervised doctoral and postdoctoral programmes, academic staff exchange and visiting fellowship opportunities, and co-development of evidence-based clinical training curricula. Both institutions have expressed strong commitment to producing research outputs that directly inform health policy and improve patient outcomes across Africa and the United Kingdom.

CERHI's Director noted that this partnership underscores the Centre's growing international profile and its dedication to building global networks that amplify the impact of locally driven research. The University of Bolton's delegation, which visited the CERHI campus in July, engaged in productive discussions with faculty, researchers, and postgraduate students, laying the groundwork for the first set of joint projects expected to launch in early 2027.

This partnership aligns with CERHI's broader strategic vision of fostering cross-continental academic alliances that translate research into real-world solutions for reproductive health challenges.

Learning & Capacity Building

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Highlights from student engagement and internship programme activities in July 2026.

500-Level

Students Hosted Interns Completed

Departments Engaged Weeks of Industrial Training

Overview

July 2026 marked significant milestones in CERHI's educational engagement. The centre hosted medical students and concluded its internship programme, reinforcing its commitment to nurturing emerging talent and building a robust pipeline of skilled researchers in reproductive health sciences.

Empowering the next generation of researchers and clinicians through hands-on experience.

Building Research Capacity

In July 2026, CERHI welcomed 500-Level Medical Students from the University of Benin for an immersive educational visit. Students engaged directly with ongoing reproductive health research projects, toured the centre's state-of-the-art laboratory facilities, and participated in guided sessions with senior researchers. The visit was designed to bridge the gap between academic theory and real-world research practice, offering students a rare opportunity to observe translational research in action and interact with professionals at the forefront of reproductive health innovation in Nigeria.

July also saw the successful conclusion of CERHI's Internship and Industrial Training Programme. Twelve trainees drawn from medical, public health, and laboratory science disciplines completed structured placements across six departments. Over eight weeks, participants gained practical skills in data collection, laboratory protocols, research ethics, and scientific writing. Supervisors commended the dedication and performance of the cohort, and several trainees expressed interest in pursuing postgraduate research at CERHI. Certificates of completion were presented at a brief closing ceremony.



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By the Numbers

CERHI Impact Metrics — July 2026

Key statistics reflecting CERHI's growth, reach, and research capacity in July 2026.

500+

Medical Students

12

Interns Trained

1

International Partners

8+

Research Programmes Active

Strategic Impact

July 2026 reflects a period of deepened institutional engagement and measurable progress. From the 500-Level Medical Students' immersive clinical visit to the formalisation of the University of Bolton partnership, CERHI's impact spans education, research, and global collaboration — underscoring its role as a leading reproductive health innovation hub.

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Research & Training Outcomes

This July, CERHI recorded significant milestones across its core mandate areas. The conclusion of the internship and industrial training programme marked a successful cycle of hands-on research capacity building. Trainees engaged directly with ongoing reproductive health studies, gaining practical exposure to laboratory protocols, data collection methodologies, and ethical research practices. These outcomes reinforce CERHI's commitment to nurturing the next generation of reproductive health researchers across Nigeria and beyond.

The strategic partnership with the University of Bolton, UK, opens new frontiers for collaborative research, faculty exchange, and joint publication opportunities. With 3 active international partnerships and 8+ ongoing research programmes, CERHI is steadily expanding its global footprint. These metrics reflect not just activity, but meaningful progress toward CERHI's long-term vision of transforming reproductive health outcomes through evidence-based innovation and cross-border academic cooperation.



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Looking Ahead

Priorities & Reflections for the Months Ahead

What CERHI is planning and working towards in the coming months.

3

Partnerships

5+

Publications

2

Training
Programmes

4

Research
Proposals

July's Key Takeaway

July 2026 was a defining month for CERHI. From welcoming international partners to nurturing the next generation of medical professionals, every activity this month reflected the Centre's unwavering commitment to advancing research, inspiring innovation, and building the global partnerships that will shape the future of reproductive health in Africa and beyond.

**July 2026 proved that
CERHI is ready to lead —
in research, in training,
and in global
collaboration.**

Looking Back. Moving Forward.

As CERHI reflects on a productive July, the Centre remains firmly focused on the road ahead. Plans are underway to formalise additional international collaborations, expand the scope of the internship and industrial training programme, and launch new research initiatives in reproductive health innovation. The Centre is also preparing for upcoming academic conferences where CERHI researchers will present findings and foster dialogue with global peers.

The milestones achieved in July are not endpoints — they are foundations. The partnership with the University of Bolton opens new corridors for joint research and academic exchange. The students who walked through our doors carry with them an expanded vision of what reproductive health research can look like. The trainees who completed their programmes leave equipped to contribute meaningfully to the field. CERHI looks forward with confidence, purpose, and a deep sense of responsibility to the communities it serves.

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CERHI UNTIL NEXT TIME

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A Closing Word from CERHI

As we close the pages of our July 2026 Newsletter, we reflect with deep gratitude and renewed purpose on all that this month has brought. From forging a transformative international partnership with the University of Bolton, UK, to welcoming our 500-Level Medical Students into immersive learning experiences beyond the classroom — July has been a month of meaningful milestones.

The conclusion of our internship and industrial training programme marks another cohort of emerging researchers and health professionals who leave CERHI better equipped to contribute to the future of reproductive health. Their energy, curiosity, and commitment inspire us daily.

To our partners, collaborators, and supporters near and far — thank you. Your belief in the mission of CERHI continues to fuel our work and amplify our impact on a global scale. We look forward to what August holds as we continue to advance research, inspire innovation, and build the partnerships that will shape the future of reproductive health.

Warm regards,

The CERHI Communications Team

Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation



**PROF. EDOBA B. OMOREGIE, SAN
VICE CHANCELLOR
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**



**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN,
BENIN CITY, EDO STATE,
NIGERIA**

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATION

UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA



OUR VISION

To be a leading institution providing innovative and transformational changes on matters relating to population and development and the improvement of the living standards of citizens in Africa.

OUR MISSION

To implement high quality training and applied research for reproductive health professionals needed to build new cohort of human resource for reducing region's high burden of fertility unsafe abortion, maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS

CERHI OBJECTIVES

1. Training of students and technical experts/policymakers through short courses on relevant fertility, maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health policy topics in the region.
2. Training of Masters in Reproductive Health, Public Health (Reproductive Health), Health Economics and Nursing Science (Reproductive Health).
3. Training of PhDs in Reproductive Health, Public Health (Reproductive Health), Health Economics and Nursing Science (Reproductive Health).
4. Development of regional laboratory capacity to support HIV/AIDS and other reproductive health related problems.



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